

III. REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for extending the courtesy of a telephone interview on January 13, 2005 during which incorrect numbering of claims 25-30 in section 5 of the last Office Action is corrected.

Since claims 25-30 all recite that the information query has information on at least one of the travel route and location, which is the special technical feature claimed in claims 1-24, it is requested that that the restriction requirement be withdrawn since no new search is required.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kenner in view of DeLorme.

According to the Examiner, DeLorme discloses routing (column 15, lines 5 to 20, 20 to 23, and column 22, lines 50 to 60). However, it appears that no routing is actually discussed in the publication.

In particular, according to DeLorme, the device makes the routing decision in the terminal (see, e.g. column 15, lines 5 to 20). Nothing there suggests that the server receiving the query would make a decision on where the data would be best found and according to which that decision is made. The term "any" suggests that the terminal makes the decision on where the data is searched from. On the operation after this, DeLorme only discloses that information is transferred back to the terminal. That is not considered routing when the query has already been sent. The operation disclosed on that paragraph is meant for correlation and coordination of the uniquely named quadrangle with the corresponding printed map.

Regarding column 15, lines 20 to 23, only refer to the second alternative way to make a query, which is explained starting on line 11. It is only disclosed that a query about identified restaurants, motels, ferry services etc. can be input. The query can prompt a non-graphics text of alphanumeric response by the PDA or other digital computer identifying the location within the smallest uniquely named grid quadrangle. Therefore, a person skilled in the art, without knowing about the current invention, would not be able to interpret this as routing. Thus, the Examiner seems to have interpreted lines 20 to 23 too broadly to comprise other issues than what DeLorme actually teaches.

In addition, as the Examiner also states, DeLorme does not teach a server.

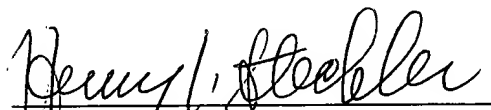
As for the Examiner's response to Issue 2, if DeLorme in fact searches from a certain place, which can be a server as well (where a database is stored), and from there only, what new feature can Kenner bring to it? Routing is still missing from it. And because Kenner does not teach the routing, just as the Examiner states, it must be found in DeLorme. However, it cannot be found from DeLorme either as discussed above.

Thus, even if Kenner and DeLorme are combined, the result is not the present invention since the claimed routing at a server feature is still missing. Claims 1, 12, 24, 25, 27, 29 and 30 have been amended to more clearly specify that the routing is at a server. The remaining independent claims already clearly recite this feature. Hence the rejection of claims 1-24 should be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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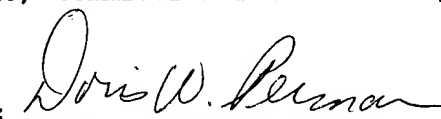
March 15, 2005
Date

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